

everything between Canada and the United States whenever Canada may see fit to appoint a commission to arrange the details. To the ordinary observer it looks very much like a case of pretty tall bluff, and means, if it has any meaning at all, that Canada must either decide to give United States goods an advantage of from 30 to 50 per cent. over the products of any other country in the world (Great Britain included), or else be shut out completely from her markets. Of course there will not be wanting things who call themselves Canadians who will be willing to do just what the above propositions are intended to effect, sell out their country for the sake of a few paltry dollars, but we have no idea that they will be numerous enough nor influential enough to affect the present loyal attitude of the present government. While the proposed increase in the duties on barley, eggs, horses, etc., going into the United States would be a serious blow to Canada, it is by no means such a one as should knock this country out. Indeed, if we are men at all or have about us any trace of those characteristics which have made the Anglo-Saxon race what it is, we shall simply take the passage of such an act as a notice to look elsewhere for our markets. While such an action may inconvenience Canada, it cannot seriously hurt her, and in the long run will do her good. As we have before pointed out, the United States is neither Canada's natural nor her best market for farm produce. It is true that she uses (to us) a considerable quantity of the produce which we export, but a country which grows five billions of dollars' worth of agricultural products and exports five hundred millions worth of it to other countries, cannot fairly be said to be languishing for want of the paltry sixteen million dollars' worth that we sell her annually. Our products are too much like those of the United States for it to be truthfully stated that she is our proper complement in a true trade relationship. On the contrary we must from the very similarity of our products always continue to be rivals. The true countries for Canada to seek commercial union and free trade relations with, are those which produce goods and natural products entirely different to our own. For instance, Cuba, the West Indies, Brazil and other South American are countries whose products are the very antithesis of our own; and for this reason they are the very countries with which we should endeavor to cultivate the freest trade relations. We should use our utmost endeavor to make them to Canada what the Southern are to the Northern States, and if we can manage that we shall find ourselves not only free from the perpetual bog of non-intercourse which the United States for years past has held over our heads to keep us in line, but will find that we shall get a higher and more satisfactory price for what we have to sell. Looked at from this stand-point, it seems as though the prohibitory duty now proposed in the United States Congress (if it passes as proposed) may not be an altogether unmixed evil. In order to meet any such emergency our government should subsidize first-class steamship lines to all those countries we have above mentioned, and endeavor in every way that lies in their power to promote an interchange of commodities with them. The trade with the Mother Country can also be much increased by a careful cultivation of the articles demanded by that country and with which they are now largely supplied by the United States. At all events let come out of the episode what may, if Canada does not clearly see that it is her worst policy to put too many eggs into the United States basket, then her people are more obtuse than we have hitherto given them credit for. Forewarned is to be forearmed.

## OTHER NOTES.

John Jacob Astor was credited with having the most expensive finkies in New York. He imported them all himself, and was proud of them.

A New York man was fined \$10 the other day for snoring in church. He was not punished for his irreverence but rather for his awkward way of expressing it.

King Leopold, of Belgium, speaks and writes English with ease and accuracy. He never lets a Sunday pass without writing an autograph letter to his friend and ally, Queen Victoria.

Tamagno, the tenor, was a baggage porter before his remarkable

powers of voice were revealed. He does not favor his former craft, however, when he is on his travels. If a porter demands what he regards as too much for carrying his trunk, he calmly shoulders it himself with all his old-time skill.

Wakeman Holberton, of New York, has completed a book that consists of a single copy that will never be duplicated. It is one of 101 quarto pages of imitation parchment, with every word and illustration of the story of the author's experiences with rod and gun on lake and in field and camp done with his pen or brush. It was prepared by Mr. Holberton for his children.

A professional rat-catcher estimates the number of rats in the United States at five for every man, woman and child in the country. For every child born there are twenty-eight rats, and each rat brought to its death costs the people an average of four cents. He says that if every person in the land should set out to hunt rats for a month the number could not be reduced to less than 100,000,000.

## OUR HELP COLUMN.

THE TRADER aims to be of practical value to the Retail Jewelry Trade. NO CHARGE is therefore made for advertising in this column, but the subject-matter should not exceed five type lines, or about 60 words.

**FOR SALE**—Large Safe, Wall Case for Silver Plate, Three Nickel-Plated Show Cases, and Show Fixtures, in one of the best stands in Orillia, two doors from Post Office. Good opening for a practical workman. Will sell for cash or exchange for American watches. Apply to GEO. STRATHERN, Midland, Ont.

**FOR SALE**—A Well-Established Jewelry Business, in a thriving town in Western Ontario, including a full set of Watchmakers' Tools. Stock about \$3,000, but will be reduced, if necessary, to suit purchaser. Large repair trade, nice store, low rent, best stand in town. Reason for selling, loss of health of proprietor. Don't apply unless you mean business. For full particulars, address N. J. A., care of TRADER Publishing Co., Toronto.

**FOR SALE**—The Stock of the late Johnston Macartney, Tara, Ont., consisting of Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, Fancy Goods and Stationery, which is offered at a great bargain, as it must be closed out at once. Apply to MRS. J. MACARTNEY, Tara, Ont.

**FOR SALE**—Jewelry Business on Bleury Street, first-class stand, on favorable terms to a bona-fide purchaser. PATTERSON BROS., 63 Bleury St., Montreal.

**FOR SALE**—Jewelry business, in the most thriving town in Manitoba. Railway centre of three independent lines. Fine farming country. Town growing very rapidly. Two jewelry stores only. Population about 3,500. Stock can be reduced with fittings, etc., to about \$2,000. Terms reasonable. Fine opening. Address, if you mean business, MARTIN & CURTIS, Portage la Prairie.

**FOR SALE**—Business for sale in live town in Western Ontario. Stock amounting to about \$5,000. Terms.—One-half cash, and balance to suit purchaser. For particulars apply to Levy Brothers, Hamilton, Ont.

**JEWELRY BUSINESS FOR SALE**, in a growing village of 2,000 inhabitants. Splendid chance for a young man with small capital. Stock about \$2,300. Good reasons for selling. Apply, MERCHANT, care of TRADER Office, Adelaide St. W., Toronto.

**PHENOMENAL**—A Practical Demagnetizer, with all necessary appliances, warranted satisfactory, sent to any address for \$3.00. No electric wire or battery required. Address, with amount enclosed, or send for particulars to Fred. J. Ide, Supt. Peoria Watch Co., Peoria, Ill., U. S.

**SITUATION WANTED**—By young man, 20 years of age, in situations preferred to wages, can do ordinary Watch, Clock and Jewelry Repairing, including hard soldering. Have spent over two years at the bench and five years as salesman. Can furnish a few references as to ability and character. Correspondence solicited. Address, W. H., Box 90, Bowmanville, Ont.

**SITUATION WANTED**—By a young man, with two years' bench experience, used to serving at counter and dressing windows; would like to get under a good man; wages no object; good references. Box 95, Mitchell, Ont.

**WANTED**—A situation by a young man, 22 years of age, who has had 6 years' experience at the bench. Good salesman, has full set of tools and American lathe. Can furnish good references. Address, A. K. Jansen, care of Geo. Klinck, jeweler, Elmira, Ont.